

BLOOMINGTON ARTS COMMISSION (BAC)

p.1

November 14, 2012 meeting, McCloskey Conference Room

ATTENDING: Jan Grant, Peter Jacobi, Sally Gaskill, Patricia Pizzo, Lynn Schwartzberg, Paul Sturm, Alain Barker, Martina Celerin, Jean Kautt, Craig Widen, Mary Norman

ABSENT: no one

EX OFFICIO: Miah Michaelson (City staff liaison), Andrea Chwee (City intern)

Jan Grant called the meeting to order at 5:05pm. Jan welcomed a guest to the meeting, Jeffrey Alan from Ivy Tech Community College.

PUBLIC COMMENT

none

APPROVAL OF MINUTES from October 8, 2012

Jan expressed thanks for the email reports. Motion by Peter to approve minutes; second by Craig; motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Municipal Arts Fund (account 402) balance = \$12,500 (with nothing outstanding)

Arts Commission Operating Fund (account 403) balance = \$10,656

STAFF REPORTS – reports by Miah Michaelson

No changes to the emailed report. In addition, seven BCT awards have been granted this year, and the names of the awardees will be shared at the next meeting.

The IAC allocation committee has been working to try and create more equality in funding allocations such that each region gets equal monies. As such AOS 1 and AOS 2, both small and large organizations, will get more money. Therefore APS, which are the arts project grants, will get less money. All of this could impact how we fund our arts projects and so we might need to consider who and how we allocate arts monies to.

OLD BUSINESS – reports by Miah Michaelson

Bloomington Transit Hub Public Art Project

In regards to the public art piece at the transit hub, the Monies come from the federal government; therefore, the project must be tied up by the end of the year i.e. either put the money in to a municipal Art fund or devise a contractual rearrangement. This assures that the public art project stays within the project and avoids rushing to try and get it in before the end of the year.

NEW BUSINESS –

Donation of Artworks to the City of Bloomington

- The committee was shown an image of “We Paint Parks” for consideration for acceptance into the City’s collection of artworks. Miah suggests that it would be appropriate. The artist is a local community member, and member of the Bloomington watercolor society. Craig moved that we accept the donation; Mary second. Vote was accepted unanimously. Miah will notify the artist.
- The family of Rosemary P Miller contacted us via Chris Sturbaum. The family would like to donate a glass tile mosaic, created by Miller. They requested that the artwork be displayed in a public place. Miah suggests that we put it in a hallway. Peter motion that we accept the piece, Patty seconded. It was accepted unanimously and Miah offered to thank the family. Martina suggested that a local mosaic artist to evaluate it for potential conservation issues.

Public Art Work on the B-Line Trail

- Jeffrey Alan from Ivy Tech Community College presented a project to the committee the project involves creating art browse along the beeline trail near the cook clinic and facing Fairview elementary school the structure will be reinforced by rebar and it will be composed of ceramic tiles that are made by the Fairview students under the guidance of Marcy needs. We are being asked to approve it as a public

art piece that we recommend Lynn motioned that we recommend the piece, Craig seconded it was approved unanimously the motion was approved unanimously.

BAC Newsletter

- Andrea and Miah presented the BAC with the idea that the BAC could have a newsletter. This would be a tool that the commission could use to communicate with its constituents. It would be a means of sharing information about funding, information from the commission, impact data, advocacy information, and it could be a way to encourage constituents to come to meetings. The newsletter would be electronic with paper copies available. Initially, distribution would be to previous applicants and there could be a link in the BEAD newsletter to subscribe to the BAC newsletter. We could then build our own database. Web pages would be archived. The committee response: they loved it! Jan said that it fully serves the function of who we are and what we do and why were here. Miah suggested starting with three newsletters a year. Jan suggested April, June, and October. Others suggested that it could be seasonal or quarterly. The goal is to showcase the projects that we funded. Alain suggested that we need even more social media presence. He suggested that this might be a good time to have a Facebook page. Miah suggested that we discuss this at the December meeting. She and Andrea would put together a "communication plan" for the December meeting.

Templates for Art Projects Grant Reporting

- at the end of granting cycle it would be useful to compare the projected and the actual impact of the monies that we gave to organizations as well as the crowd numbers. Andrea will make a template for funded arts projects for the committee to look at.
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FOCUS TOPIC**Evaluation of Art Grants**

- Jan pointed out that the analysis of the arts project grants is a very long event. She asked if there is a way to get the information in advance but streamline the process. Maybe we can consider forgoing the two-minute talks and instead just ask questions. Alain noted that some of the synopses given by the applicants have changed his opinion about the project and thinks that they are a very important part of the evaluation process but maybe we should consider limiting the time. Martina suggested that some of the update are essential and does affect how we consider the project. Peter noted that it's a very important part of the evaluation and we should just accept that it is a long process. He suggested that we could consider starting sooner and/or allocating a longer amount of time to get it done. Mary noted that several organizations are tapping into many different sources for monies. Miah reminded us that the grants are not need-based i.e., were not trying to fund the neediest organizations, but quality-based projects. Craig pointed out that the public exchange is also very important for us. Miah suggested that we consider having a "first reader - second reader" system for each project. Jan also suggested an earlier start might be effective. For the April 10 meeting we might consider starting the meeting at four and have a timer that everyone can see. Miah offered to set up the first and second readers.
- Lynn pointed out that some of the projects that we funded probably should not have been funded. She suggested that we increase the maximum funding request amount to \$1200. That would raise the bar on who we funded. Alain suggested that we need to reach a larger audience to get more applicants and noted that the newsletter should take care of that. Miah pointed out that this might be an anomaly this year and with more promotion, including the newsletter, we will get more and better proposals. We need to consider how to encourage more schools and social service agencies to apply for BAC grants. Jan suggested that we be more specific in the guidelines to be explicit about what we want in the two-minute update. Sally pointed out that if one of our goals is to reach out to schools, then we need to connect with the art teacher groups. Miah is tasking Sally with tracking down who is in charge of the teachers in art, music, and theater in our school systems. Jan pointed out that we have a consensus that we need to shore things up. We need to be clear in what we are expecting from the applicants and what they will be presenting.

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SUPPLEMENTAL MINUTES FROM...

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p.3

Respectfully submitted by Martina Celerin